

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 09792 251554Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9546
/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 7700
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION SINAI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, IS, EG
SUBJECT: CABINET HEARS REPORT ON SADAT VISIT

1. SUMMARY: A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CABINET NOVEMBER 24
HEARD A REPORT ON THE SADAT VISIT. ACCORDING TO PRESS RE-
PORTS, THE CABINET WAS TOLD THAT EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT TO
CONTINUING CONTACTS IS EVIDENCE THAT SADAT WAS SATISFIED
WITH THE VISIT. BEGIN ANNOUNCED THAT NO AGREEMENT HAD BEEN
REACHED REGARDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ONWARD TALKS AND THAT HE
EXPECTED AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM CAIRO ON THE SUBJECT. THE
PRESS SPEAKS OF A RETHINKING BY CABINET MINISTERS
ON TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS AND CITES A TV POL AS INDICAT-
ING THAT IN THE WAKE OF SADAT'S VISIT MOST MKS FAVOR
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TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS ON THE WEST BANK. END SUMMARY

2. FOLLOWING AN EXTRAORDINARY THREE-HOUR SESSION OF
THE CABINET YESTERDAY TO HEAR A REPORT ON THE SADAT
VISIT, CABINET SECRETARY NAOR READ THE FOLLOWING BLAND
STATEMENT: BEGIN TEXT: AT TODAY'S CABINET SESSION, THE
PRIME MINSTER, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN

MINISTER, THE DEFENSE MINISTER, THE FINANCE MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR REPORTED TO THE CABINET ON THEIR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT AND THE MEMBERS OF THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION. THE GOVERNMENT NOTES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MEETING IN JERUSALEM, NATIONALLY, REGIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. THERE WILL BE CONTINUATION OF THE TALKS ON ESTABLISHING PEACE AND ON SIGNING PEACE TREATIES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS NEIGHBORS. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF ANY PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE GEVEVA CONFERENCE, WHOSE RESUMPTION BOTH GOVERNMENTS DESIRE. END TEXT.

3. THE PRESS REPORTS THAT OTHER THAN AGREEMENT TO PURSUE CONTACTS THE CABINET WAS TOLD OF NO SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR ONWARD MEETINGS WHICH WERE DISCUSSED WITH THE EGYPTIANS. THE CABINET MEMBERS WERE SAID TO HAVE FELT THAT SADAT AND HIS ENTOURAGE WERE PLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE VISIT AND POINTED TO THE AGREEMENT TO REMAIN IN CONTACT AS EVIDENCE OF THIS ASSESSMENT. THEY ALSO CITED WITH SATISFACTION AN AL-AKHBAR ARTICLE, READ OVER RADIO CAIRO ON NOV. 23, PRAISING ISRAEL'S DESIRE FOR PEACE, AND DESCRIBING IN GLOWING TERMS SADAT'S WARM WELCOME IN JERUSALEM. IN ADDITION, BEGIN AND DAYAN WERE SAID TO HAVE NOTED KING KHALID'S CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO SADAT AS EVIDENCE THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD SWUNG BEHIND EGYPT IN SUPPORT OF THE VISIT.
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4. BEGIN TOLD JOURNALISTS AFTER THE CABINET MEETING THAT NONE OF THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE OR ISRAEL'S SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE CABINET. BEGIN DENIED A REPORT THAT A DATE HAD BEEN SET FOR RECONVENING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. HE ALSO SAID THERE WAS AS YET NO TIMETABLE FOR FURTHER MEETINGS WITH THE EGYPTIANS AND INDICATED THAT THE NEXT STEP IN THE NEW CHAPTER OF DIRECT ISRAEL-EGYPT CONTACTS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED IN CAIRO.

5. MEANWHILE, THE PRESS IS SPECULATING ON ALLEGED SHIFTS IN OPINION OF KEY MINISTERS. THE PUBLIC IS REMINDED THAT DAYAN IS A PRAGMATIST AND WOULD FAVOR TRADING TERRITORY FOR PEACE. EZER WEIZMAN'S ENTHUSIASM FOR THE SADAT VISIT IS TAKEN AS AN INDICATION THAT HE SEES THE CHANCES FOR PEACE AS GOOD AND THAT WHEN THE TIME COMES HE WILL REVEAL HIMSELF AS A MODERATE ON TERRITORIES. ZEVULUN HAMMER IS QUOTED AS SUGGESTING THAT A RETHINKING OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IS CALLED FOR IN THE LIGHT OF SADAT'S VISIT. TODAY'S PAPERS ALSO REPORT AN INFORMAL TV POLL OF KNESSET MEMBERS FOLLOWING THE SADAT VISIT SHOWS

MOST FAVOR TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS ON THE WEST BANK.
THIS MAJORITY IS BASED ON SOME LIBERAL PARTY MEMBERS
TAKING A MODERATE LINE. THE PRESS POINTS OUT THAT
THE IMPOSITION OF PARTY DISCIPLINE (READ DISCIPLINE
WITHIN THE LIKUD), COULD CHANGE THIS LINEUP.
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